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AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7050

E.O. 12065 GDS 8-27-85 (FRIEDMAN, TOWNSEND B.) OR-P
TAGS SHUM, AR
SUBJECT (U) ALLEGED INTERVIEW WITH DISAPPEARED ARGENTINE JARA DE CABEZAS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 4283

1. (U) PARA 6 OF THIS CABLE CONTAINS AN ACTION REQUEST.

2. (C) SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION: THE GOA'S NEWS SERVICE HAS DISTRIBUTED A REPORTED INTERVIEW WITH MRS. THELMA JARA DE CABEZAS. THE SERVICE ALLEGES THAT THE INTERVIEW APPEARED IN A NEW YORK DAILY "NEWS WORLD" AND WAS CONDUCTED IN MONTEVIDEO. IN THE ALLEGED INTERVIEW MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS DENOUNCES BOTH THE MONTONEROS AND THOSE SEEKING TO USE HER CASE TO DISCREDIT ARGENTINA. WE REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY MONTEVIDEO TRY TO DETERMINE THE AUTHENTICITY OF THIS INTERVIEW. ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SOURCES TELL US THAT AS RECENTLY AS FIFTEEN TO TWENTY DAYS AGO JARA DE CABEZAS CALLED HER MOTHER. END SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION.

3. (U) MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS IS PURPORTEDLY ALLIVE AND WELL IN URUGUAY, ACCORDING TO A NEWS ITEM DISTRIBUTED
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BY THE GOA'S TELAM NEWS AGENCY AND PRINTED IN SEVERAL

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 4/20/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

BUENOS AIRES NEWSPAPERS AUGUST 25. TELAM CLAIMS THAT ON AUGUST 22 A NEW YORK DAILY, "NEWS WORLD", PUBLISHED AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS IN WHICH SHE DENIED THAT SHE WAS KIDNAPPED BY ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES AND HELD AGAINST HER WILL. RATHER, SHE IS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED" SHE HAS BEEN RUNNING FROM THE MONTONEROS SINCE SHE BROKE RELATIONS WITH THE TERRORISTS AFTER HER SON WAS KILLED IN A CLASH BETWEEN THE MONTONEROS AND THE SECURITY FORCES." JARA DE CABEZAS IS FURTHER ALLEGED TO HAVE SAID THAT SHE FEARS THE MONTONEROS MAY KILL HER BECAUSE SHE HAS BROKEN WITH THEM.

4. (U) JARA DE CABEZAS ALSO REPEATS SOME OF THE SAME THOUGHTS CONTAINED IN LETTERS ATTRIBUTED TO HER WRITTEN AFTER SHE DISAPPEARED: THAT HER CASE IS BEING MANIPULATED AND ABUSED BY GROUPS ANXIOUS TO DEFAME ARGENTINA AND THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. SHE ALSO REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THAT SHE DECIDED TO RISK HER LIFE BY GRANTING THE INTERVIEW IN ORDER TO PUT AN END TO THESE PRACTICES AND TO SAVE OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE FROM FOLLOWING THE ROAD TAKEN BY HER SON.

5. (C) COMMENT: THIS IS NOT THE FIRST ALLEGED RECANTATION BY JARA DE CABEZAS (REFTEL). HOWEVER, ATTEMPTS TO FOLLOW THE LEADS PROVIDED IN HER LETTERS, ALLEGEDLY WRITTEN FROM SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, PROVED STERILE.

6. (C) THE LOCAL STRINGER FOR "NEWS WORLD" TELLS US THAT THE PAPER IS OWNED BY THE REVEREND MOON'S MOVEMENT. SHE SPECULATED TO US THAT THE PIECE IN QUESTION WAS
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WRITTEN BY THE PAPER'S STRINGER IN MONTEVIDEO. WE REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT SEEK TO ASCERTAIN FROM "NEWS WORLD" ALL THAT IT CAN ABOUT THE INTERVIEW AND THAT EMBASSY MONTEVIDEO ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW UP WITH "NEWS WORLD" LOCAL CORRESPONDENT.

7. (C)TWO WOMEN FROM THE FAMILIES OF DETAINED AND DISAPPEARED (FOD) CALLED ON THE EMBASSY IN RELATION TO THIS ARTICLE.IN ADDITION TO EXPRESSING GREAT SKEPTICISM ABOUTTHE "INTERVIEW," THEY ALSO REQUESTED

THE THE EMBASSY'S HELP TO LEARN HOW TO CONTACT "NEWS WORLD" AS WELL AS THE REPORTER WHO CONDUCTED THE INTERVIEW. OUR TWO CALLERS NOTED THAT THE TELAM PIECE IS THE FIRST SUGGESTION FROM THE GOA THAT MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS'

SON IS DEAD. THEY EXPRESSED THE FEAR MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS MAY ALSO TURN UP DEAD, A "VICTIM OF THE MONTONEROS." WE ALSO LEARNED FROM OUR SOURCES WHO ARE ACCURATELY REPORTING THEIR UNDERSTANDING, THAT MRS. JARA DE CABEZAS HAS BEEN SPEAKING TO HER MOTHER BY PHONE FAIRLY REGULARLY, THE LAST PHONE CALL TAKING PLACE ABOUT 15 TO 20 DAYS AGO.
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